



The Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Project



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



Washington State
Department of Transportation



City of Seattle

SEPTEMBER 2005 COMMENT SUMMARY

Introduction

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project database contains 6,130 comments, 17 of which were submitted in September of 2005.

Origin of Comments

Fifteen of the comments received were submitted via e-mail, and two comments came via phone calls.

Two comments came from the central region of the project area, three from the south end, and one from the north. It was impossible to determine the origin of seven of the comments, and one came from outside the project area.

Comment Categories

Each comment submitted is categorized by the content of the message. Please note that depending on content, some comments were grouped into more than one category. There are 60 comment categories divided into six sections. The sections are economic, structures/locations, transportation, design and construction, and environmental/public safety. The comment categories range from cost and freight to traffic, air pollution and public safety.

Comments were received in the areas listed below. These are groups of similar categories with the ideas that were expressed in the comments.

Design/Construction:

This group includes categories such as construction, urban design, the seawall, and engineering. There were nine comments identified in this group. The major themes were:

- If the entire area could be somehow free from the noise and eyesore that SR 99 creates through the waterfront it would be a miracle.
- What was the basis of the decision that the existing Alaskan Way viaduct structure could not be retrofitted?
- My understanding is that there would be commercial development, and that the housing would be rather high-rise and expensive.

Economic:

The group includes categories such as cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. There were four comments in this group. The major themes were:

- I don't want to pay for a tunnel, and I don't want to give away the waterfront.
- How much would it cost to replace just the seawall as opposed to the seawall/viaduct together?
- I may have to close my business when construction starts, as it took an hour each day to go 3.4 miles to work after the earthquake.

Transit:

This group includes categories like monorail, light rail, and transit. There were three comments in this group. The major themes were:

- Consider building the tunnel for light rail, not cars.
- Is there a possibility of running light rail through the tunnel eventually?

Transportation:

This group includes categories such as traffic, connections/circulations, pedestrians, and bicycles. There were three comments in this group. The major themes were:

- Don't focus only on moving cars.
- What is the extent of closure for both alternatives?